

DREYFUS IS BRAVELY
THE BATTLE FOR LIFE.
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Heard about fifty men raised the cry: "A l'au! a l'au!" meaning, "To the river with him!" The cry is a purely local one.

It is generally believed that the demonstration was due to a section of what is called the "straw hat brigade" imported from Paris to cry "Vive Dreyfus," when that Republican-monarchist anomaly arrives here to stir up the good people of Rennes.

When Dreyfus heard the shouts he started in astonishment and anger, and turned his face toward the shouters, who kept it up until the gate of the prison closed behind him.

This is the first public demonstration of any kind since Dreyfus's return. The Dreyfus party is in high glee over the bad mistake in etiquette made by Mercier. He arrived Sunday afternoon, and soon after drove to the residence of Colonel Jouaust, sent in his card and asked for a private interview.

Colonel Jouaust declined to see him, sending word that he, as president of the council, considered it his duty to refrain from receiving any communication from Mercier other than those officially made in court.

A Sharp Reproof for Mercier.

This was not only a sharp rebuff to a superior officer, but was in its way a severe criticism of Mercier, who left, according to report, pale with anger.

The deplorable character of Mercier's position may be gathered from the words of Bernard Lazare, who is chief spokesman of the Dreyfus party, and in whose pamphlet of 1896 made a public declaration that Dreyfus was innocent.

I found M. Lazare at the Hotel Moderne in close consultation with La Dame Blanche, one of numerous sentimental followers of the Dreyfus case. She has been a shining friend of Dreyfus from the start, and has been present at every function connected with the case.

She is a stern-faced, rather handsome brunette, of perhaps thirty-five years. She was plainly dressed, but wore a necklace of pearls, and her fingers blazed with large diamonds. Her name, which may not have been published hitherto, is Mme. Darton. This came out in the course of the conversation.

Regarding the issue at the trial, Lazare said:

"It has come at last to a struggle between Dreyfus and Mercier. I have no faith in the statement that Mercier has new facts or is preparing for a coup d'etat. The only thing that he can possibly do is to delay or postpone inquiry by the introduction of new, undisclosed matters of a diplomatic character, which might possibly be a pretext for further investigation.

"If he has anything, why was it withheld from the Court of Cassation?"

"From the way Dreyfus faced Jouaust, and his perfect command of all the vital facts, I believe Mercier will not be heard of after he leaves the stand.

Most Dramatic Moment of the Trial.

It will be the most dramatic moment of the trial when he will be cross-examined by Labori, who is making this his special work in the case. Demange will conduct the case generally.

"The two lawyers at first differed radically as to the plan of procedure, but they are now fully agreed.

"As to establishing the perfect innocence of Dreyfus I have no doubts. The Court of Cassation found that Esterhazy wrote the bordereau. No court on earth is likely to say Dreyfus furnished a foreign power with the documents mentioned in the bordereau which he did not write and which was written by a man he did not know.

More than this that villain Esterhazy's confession, signed and sworn to, that he wrote the bordereau, is in the hands of Dreyfus's lawyers, and will be offered in evidence on his behalf.

"There is a great deal more than this everything I think to make clear the mystery which so long over this case.

"But of that it is not my province to speak. However, according to my theory of the case the innocence of Dreyfus and the guilt of Henry and Esterhazy will be proved."

"Enormous Corruption Concealed."

Concerning the duplicity mentioned another party present summarized the case very briefly by saying:

"What is being concealed by every possible means in this case is the enormous amount of corruption that existed. It will never do for that to be known.

"Two men were guilty. One is in London and the other in a place less foggy. They, to save themselves, needed a scapegoat. They employed all their military influence against Dreyfus. They were clever enough to commit their superior officers irreparably till the light broke, when Henry forged the letter for Cavalgnao.

This question: Why Henry forged the letter and then cut his throat, should be answered by this trial."

DREYFUS ASTOUNDED BY
HIS WORLD-WIDE FAME.

Emily Crawford Says the Prisoner Was Disappointed at the Trial, as He Only Expected a Mere Formality.

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RENNES, Aug. 8.—Maitre Demange, the principal counsel for Captain Dreyfus, expresses himself as well satisfied with yesterday's proceedings.

Colonel Jouaust had to play the part of a severe judge, but if his voice were rude and his manner commanding toward the prisoner his eyes were kind, and there were no attempts to press home the points raised by the indictment.

M. Chamoin, the custodian of the famous secret dossier, said it would take four days to read it.

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He was thrown in a heap by the searching, and as he thought, untriedly, examination by the president of the court-martial. He had expected mere formal proceedings.

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